

## THE BRITISH PRESS

## "Worse Than Slavery"

## SILENCE IN BERLIN

Mr. McDonald's letter of resignation has provoked the British press into a reaffirmation of the feelings of horror with which Britain, without distinction of party or creed, regards the barbarous persecution of Jews by Nazi Germany. The letter has been given prominence in most newspapers, and leading articles have appeared in THE TIMES, MANCHESTER GUARDIAN, DAILY TELEGRAPH, NEWS CHRONICLE, WESTERN MAIL and STAR.

The Geneva correspondent of the MANCHESTER GUARDIAN writes that: "Mr. McDonald's frank letter has created a profound impression in Geneva, where the international crisis has served to distract attention from the conditions in Germany. Most of the decrees and laws mentioned in the annexe have appeared in the press at the time of their promulgation, but their publication in complete form has served as a timely reminder of the plight of Jews and non-Aryans under Nazi rule, a plight which is being aggravated rather than diminished. As one League observer remarked to me, the document reveals conditions far worse than the worst report of slavery ever submitted to the League. It is not yet known what steps will be taken by the League in view of Mr. McDonald's resignation. The formation of a League organisation to take over all refugee work, including that of the Nansen Refugee Office, is already under consideration following a proposal made by the Norwegian Government in the Assembly in September, and it is expected that an attempt will be made by the January Council to hasten a definite decision on this matter."

According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, great consternation was caused in German Government circles when the text of the letter of resignation became known. Although Germany is no longer a member of the League, there is nothing the Nazis fear so much as collective steps which the League might take with regard to Germany, particularly in view of the measures enforced by the League against Italy. In German circles the fear is expressed that if the League approves Mr. McDonald's recommendation that diplomatic correctness should give way to considerations of humanity, it might take collective procedures against Germany, especially since France, which has borne the brunt of the refugee wave, has long been demanding that the League should force Germany's obedience although she is no longer a member.

The German people are being kept in the dark about the McDonald recommendations, no report having appeared in the Press. The Berlin Correspondent of THE TIMES comments on this silence as follows: "It is understandable that Mr. McDonald's devastating report should be unwelcome. It not only confirms all that has been published in THE TIMES and other foreign newspapers about the persecution of the Jews and others, but shows with what restraint the subject had been reported. It should be realised, however, that under present conditions the German public can be and often is wholly isolated from events outside. So far the news of Mr. McDonald's resignation and some idea of the reasons are known in Germany only to those officials who have access to the private reports from abroad, to German newspaper representatives, who are told daily what they are not to mention, and to the few thousand readers of foreign newspapers. All these, until the 'whispering post' common to countries under dictatorship, gets under way, are a mere handful. It has become a commonplace to talk of each New Year as a year of decisions. Meanwhile, German propagandists are ending the year 1935 in stating in unison that Germany has been an 'island of tranquillity' in a Europe and a world gone mad. Germany, under her present Press regime, has become insular. It may be useful to remember this if, as the Nazis hope, thousands of foreign visitors come to Germany for the Olympic Games in 1936 and, in accordance with elaborate preparations, are shown a superficially smiling land and told that all they have heard at home were in the nature of 'atrocity tales.' The foreign visitors in mentioning, say, Mr. McDonald's letter may well be met with such an obviously sincere ignorance that they may wonder whether, after all, they were mistaken."

## WHY HE RESIGNED

## Mr. McDonald's Statement to the Press

Mr. McDonald, in a Press Conference in New York, in which he explained the reason for his resignation, emphasised the need for the League to take action striking at the roots of the refugee problem. "My resignation as High Commissioner does not mean that the refugee question is solved," Mr. McDonald declared. "It is quite the contrary. That problem resulting from the National Socialist oppression of Jews and Christian 'non-Aryans' and also those 'Aryan' Catholics and Protestants, who, for their conscience' sake have resisted the totalitarian dogmas of the Nazi State, is graver to-day than at any other time since April, 1933."

"I have resigned because the steady intensification of National Socialist intolerance has brought about a situation which transcends consideration of relief or settlement. Only the League of Nations can deal with the crisis. It alone can concern itself directly with the roots of the problem and those factors which are creating refugees."

"Though henceforth I shall have no official connection with this question, I intend to do everything I can in my personal capacity to help the work in caring for the refugees. My experiences during the last twenty-six months convince me that nothing less is involved in this tragedy than the principles of basic civilisation itself."

## COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS

## Ministry of Interior Bans Jews

## THOUSANDS TO BE THROWN OUT OF WORK

According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency drastic instructions issued to the police on Christmas Eve as an administrative order of the Ministry of the Interior will, after the New Year, deprive over 30,000 Jews of their means of livelihood. The instructions provide that the police authorities are not to renew the permits of Jewish commercial travellers, which are customarily renewed between Christmas and the New Year. Without such a licence, no commercial traveller has the right to canvass merchandise in any district other than the one in which his firm has its headquarters. The order was issued on the grounds that "Jews are no longer politically reliable." Jewish travellers are, according to the explanation, a great danger to the Nazi Reich since, if permitted to travel, they constitute an element likely to spread atrocity stories in various parts of the country.

So grave may be the consequences of this order, that Jewish leaders on Christmas Day urgently appealed to Dr. Schacht, according to the J.T.A., for immediate action to nullify the order of the Ministry of the Interior. Should the instructions not be rescinded, over 2,000 families in Berlin alone will be deprived of their means of livelihood. The total number of Jewish commercial travellers is larger than the total number of Jews engaged in the legal, medical and all the other professions. It is estimated by Jewish leaders that between 30,000 and 40,000 Jews earn their living on the road. The J.T.A. Correspondent was told at the Ministry of Economics that, according to official data, there are 24,384 Jewish commercial travellers. According to reliable estimates of Jewish organisations, however, the number is much larger.

In addition to this sweeping measure, the instructions provide, says the J.T.A., that the police should not issue licences to Jewish manufacturers who wish to employ commercial travellers, on the grounds that they also might be responsible for spreading atrocity stories.

## GEORG KARESKI

## Approves of Ghetto Laws

## INTERVIEW IN DR. GOEBBELS' "ANGRIFF"

The ANGRIF, the organ of Dr. Goebbels, has published a full-page interview with Georg Kareski, the Jew who has accepted office under the Nazi Government as Reich Commissioner for Jewish Cultural Affairs. Herr Kareski's answers to the first two questions put to him by his anti-Semitic interviewer are of particular interest:

1. Question: "Do you know, Herr Director Kareski, that our Leader and Chancellor has, in justifying the Nuremberg laws, expressed the hope that through this secular solution a basis may be established for a tolerable relationship between the German and Jewish peoples? You, as a leading personality of the State Zionist Movement, have always defended a sharp division between the German and the Jewish peoples on the basis of mutual respect."

Reply: "That is so. I have for many years regarded a complete separation between the cultural activities of the two peoples as a condition for a peaceful collaboration and I have always been in favour of such a separation, provided it is founded on the respect for the alien nationality."

2. Question: "What are your views on the situation created by the Nuremberg laws so far as the cultural life of the Jews in Germany is concerned?"

Reply: "The Nuremberg laws of September 15th, 1935, seem to me, apart from their legal provisions, entirely to conform with this desire for a separate life based on mutual respect. This is especially so when one takes into account the order for separate school systems which has been issued previously. The Jewish school is an old political demand of my friends, because they consider that the education of the Jew in accordance with his traditions and his mode of life is absolutely essential."

## NAZISM FOR EXPORT

## Goebbels Faces Both Ways

"Jews in Germany," the "black book" published recently by this Institute for Racial Study, is intended not only for consumption within Germany, but for anti-Jewish propaganda abroad, the ANGRIF states.

"The book is to be recommended not only in Germany," according to the ANGRIF, "but abroad, where it may help the understanding of our attitude towards the Jews. Furthermore, the book serves not only the purposes of enlightenment, but presents an important contribution to our propaganda, revealing the pernicious influences at work in other countries."

Yet Dr. Goebbels, of whose department the ANGRIF is the official organ, speaking recently at the Reichs Press Congress in Cologne, declared: "We have no desire to give advice (to foreign countries), but we also object to being told what to do. We wish to show the greatest possible reserve towards foreign countries, and we furthermore do not wish to see foreign matters from the point of view of conditions in Germany. The outside world is not National Socialist. It is no mere phrase when we say that National Socialism is not an export-commodity. If we had our way, it would be patented and copyrighted."

## HOW TO CLOSE A STORE

## Accuse the Staff of "Rassenschande"

Unable to force the Magdeburg Jewish-owned department store Barasch Brothers to dismiss its Jewish employees, the local authorities adopted the novel course of bringing a wholesale charge of Rassenschande against Jews employed in the store.

An official announcement by the Department of Justice in Magdeburg states that a number of Jewish employees, holding the most responsible positions in the store, have been arrested "for racial desecration" and the others have fled. The chief of police further announces that the owners of the store were forced by him to replace their staff manager by a member of the Nazi Party, "appointed by the chief of police." This, the announcement adds, does not yet mean that the firm is to be considered as non-Jewish.

The store, which was closed down, has now been permitted to re-open.

At a special meeting of Party members in Magdeburg, the Nazi chief commissioner, Herr Krause, delivered a violent anti-Jewish address, urging the strictest application of the anti-Jewish laws.

## "INDIVIDUAL ACTION" PUNISHED

## A Welcome Exception

Two Nazis have been sentenced in Karlsruhe to three months' imprisonment for blackmailing and attacking a Jew in an effort to obtain his signature to a document stating that he cancelled a debt owed him by one of them. The debt consisted of a mortgage worth a thousand marks, which the victim of the attack had held since 1925.

The public prosecutor demanded severe punishment, and he based his demand on the plea that the action of the defendants was definitely against the will of Hitler, who was opposed to "individual anti-Jewish actions." The accused, he said, had therefore acted against the State as well as against the plaintiff by dragging the Jew into a room, beating him up and trying to force him to sign a document.

## DR. SCHACHT POWERLESS

## Jews Arrested for Appealing to Him

The two Jewish owners of a department store in Iserlohn, Westphalia, together with their wives and the manager of the store have been arrested and held for thirty-six hours in protective custody for complaining to Dr. Schacht against the local authorities for compelling them to close the provisions section of their store.

The complaint was submitted to Dr. Schacht through a central Jewish organisation and resulted in the sending of a special investigator to Iserlohn. An anti-Jewish demonstration was thereupon staged before the department store, leading to the arrest of the five Jews, who were released after the withdrawal of their complaint and after they had agreed to sign a statement to the effect that they had closed the provisions department voluntarily "in the interests of the local retail-traders."

## "RACIAL DESECRATION"

## Three Months for a Kiss

For kissing an "Aryan" girl with her consent, an eighteen-year-old Jewish boy has been sentenced by a court in Darmstadt to three months' imprisonment. In handing down the verdict, the court stated that "although the girl wanted to be kissed, the accused should have known that under the present circumstances no such tenderness is permitted."

In Mannheim, a Jew was sentenced to one year's imprisonment for Rassenschande because he maintained a three-year's relationship with an "Aryan" woman after the Nuremberg laws had been promulgated. The court emphasised that it was passing a mild sentence because the defendant was a veteran of the War.

## JEWISH FIRM CONFISCATED

## Owners Forced to Repay Profits

The Jewish-owned business of Simson and Co. at Suhl, Thuringia, an important factory manufacturing small arms, sporting guns, saddles, parasol-binders and machine parts, has been taken over by the Nazi Party. The factory was one of those permitted to continue manufacturing armaments under the Treaty of Versailles, and as such had a monopoly of certain Reich contracts. After the Nazi revolution, it is alleged, an investigation revealed that the firm, in violation of its agreement with the State, had made excess profits amounting to many million marks, and at the same time paid the lowest wages. The Simson family has not received a penny of compensation, but has been forced to surrender all its financial interests in the concern and to pay back several million marks "excess profits."

## Adult Classes in Anti-Semitism

Every civil servant in Northern Bavaria has been ordered to attend "classes in anti-Semitism," which are being held in over 1,000 communities. The general public is officially exhorted to attend as well.

The object of these "classes for grown-ups" is officially stated to be "to put an end to racial pollution crimes by Jews throughout the province."

## The Olympic Games

## Political Importance for Germany

In a review of the year in Germany, the Berlin Correspondent of the OBSERVER stresses how the Nazi Government uses everything for its own ends, finding political significance in non-political events. He writes: "Strenuous efforts were also made during the year to increase political friendship with England. The conclusion of the Anglo-German naval pact was greeted here with terrific jubilation. Sir John Simon's talks with Chancellor Hitler, the visit to Berlin of the British Legion delegation, the recent Anglo-German football match, and the foundation of the Anglo-German Fellowship Club have all played their part in the persistent wooing of Britain." It is easy, therefore, to see the political importance for Hitler of holding the Olympic Games in Berlin.

The importance is admitted in Germany by the publication of a "handbook for political training in clubs belonging to the German Reich League for Athletics." Entitled "Knowledge about Germany," it is by Kurt Muench, who is described as "Reich political trainer." "Athletics and sport are the preparatory school of the political will in the service of the State," the book states in the preface. "Non-political, so-called 'neutral' sportsmen are unthinkable in Hitler's State." The book outlines in detail extreme Nazi teaching on such questions as blood and race, the Jews (who are described as a "devilish power in the life of the people"), the Roman Catholics and the Great War, in which, it is stated, Germany lost no decisive battle. For historical students, a description of the battle of Jutland contained in this book states that "the British Fleet fled, shattered and broken, back to its mouse hole." Another section which gives a study of the Nordic race, says that the good Nordic man must be capable of hatred, which is "a power of the soul as much as love or faith." Finally, a section describes how "popular sports are an excellent means of promoting military ability."

Discriminations against Jewish athletes continue, and in Hamburg the Jewish sports clubs have been notified by the authorities that they may no longer use the public baths for training.

Further newspaper articles urging the boycott of the Berlin Olympiad have appeared in the DIARIO DE MADRID, the BIRMINGHAM POST and the SHIELDS GAZETTE (South Shields).

DR. B. BARLING, M.D., M.R.C.P., Senior Medical Officer of the Post Graduate School, Hammersmith, has been appointed Deputy Superintendent of the St. Mary Abbot Hospital, Kensington.

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